

Wycombe Dispute Oxford's Winner

Oxford City 3;

Wycombe Wanderers 2.

A HOTLY disputed goal by Oxford City centre-forward J. Woodley, gave his side a winning lead, 20 minutes before the end of the much rearranged Isthmian League floodlit match against Wycombe Wanderers on Monday, writes "Nova."

Many Wanderers' supporters left Oxford convinced that they had been robbed of a point because of the referee's decision to award a goal to Oxford, after the ball had hit the under-side of the cross-bar, bounced down, and then out of the goal area. Despite fervent protests by skipper Len Worley and the rest of the Wanderers' team, the goal was allowed to stand.

Wycombe never deserved to lose this excellent match, if only because of their dazzling first half display, when they really rocked the Oxford defence.

But after 20 ding-dong minutes Wycombe found themselves a goal down when Dave Worley stuck a foot in the way of a poor Woodley shot to deflect the ball past the diving Ken Brown.

This setback inspired Wycombe and with George Blair and Len Worley running rings around the two former Wanderers Jim Truett and Barry Darvill, goals were bound to come.

A delightful Wycombe attack brought a great goal from Blair five minutes later.

Play continued to flow from end to end but with Wycombe always seeming the more dangerous. Five minutes before half-time, inside-left Tony Horsman, in his debut game, scored a very good goal after beating two men inside the penalty area.

This was a signal for all-out Wanderers attack and in the last five minutes of the first half Steve Hyde had a header and a shot brilliantly pushed over the bar by another ex-Wanderer Dennis Syrett, while Charlie Gale and John Beck both missed narrowly with tremendous long shots.

OUT OF STEAM

Play became a little rough in the second half and Wycombe, for the first time, began to miss the height of the injured John Fisher in the middle. Colin Hurley ran out of steam, in his first team debut, and the forwards did not get the service they required.

After only a few minutes' play Oxford equalised through right-winger Trevor Jones and then took the lead with their disputed goal. Wycombe tried desperately in the last few minutes, but were unable to get the deserved equaliser.

Dave Worley played a splendid game in Fisher's centre-half spot but he was not able to dominate in the air during the hectic second half. Gale dominated in attack and defence but Hurley was rather out of touch in the second half. Of the forwards, Len Worley had a good first half but was outplayed by Darvill in the second. Horsman showed some excellent touches, and with his speed and powerful shot could well establish himself in the problem inside-left position. James and Hyde both tried hard against tough defenders.